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Agenda item 43
The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

Argentina, Canada, Chile, France, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti",

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, as well as those adopted on the question by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1212 (1998) of 25 November 1998, in which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti until 30 November 1999,

Taking note also of the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States,

Reaffirming that the goal of the international community remains the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social and economic development in Haiti,

Paying tribute to the people and authorities of Haiti for their efforts to consolidate democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law,

Underlining the importance of the role of Haitian authorities in initiating and implementing the process of judicial reform, without which the assistance of the international community will not have the desired impact,

Expressing deep concern at the prolonged political stalemate, which undermines the development and consolidation of democratic institutions in Haiti,

Strongly supporting the continuing leadership of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States in the efforts of the international community to further social, economic and political progress in Haiti,

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Welcoming the continued efforts by States to provide humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation to the people of Haiti,

Supporting fully the contributions of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, its Executive Director and staff and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti in the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the full observance of human rights and the full restoration of the constitutional democracy of Haiti,

Encouraging the continued cooperation between the International Civilian Mission to Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and others participating in institution-building, including police training activities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti[1] and the request from the President of the Republic of Haiti to the Secretary-General contained in the annex thereto,

Stressing the importance of continuing to improve the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti, and noting that the Haitian authorities remain committed to upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms and to improving accountability,

1. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Secretary-General contained in his report[1] to extend for one year the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, with the tasks of:

(a) Assisting, as a priority, the efforts of the Haitian authorities in the field of institution-building, in particular providing technical assistance and guidance to the components of the judicial system as part of the process of judicial reform;

(b) Supporting the development of a programme for the promotion and protection of human rights in order to further the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the consolidation of long-term constitutional democracy in Haiti and to contribute to the strengthening of democratic institutions;

(c) Verifying full observance by Haiti of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Decides* to authorize, on the basis of the above recommendation, the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti until 31 December 1999, according to the terms of reference and modalities under which the Mission is operating;

3. *Urges* the authorities and political leaders to continue their efforts to find a compromise that will bring an end to the political crisis;

4. *Calls upon* the Haitian authorities to mobilize political will for the pursuit of the reform and strengthening of Haiti's system of justice, including the improvement of the country's prisons;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly two reports on the implementation of the present resolution and, in the case of the first report, to be submitted no later than 15 May 1999, on the ways in which the international community can continue to assist in the tasks set out in paragraph 1 above;

6. *Reaffirms once again* the commitment of the international community to continue its technical, economic and financial cooperation with Haiti in support of its economic and social development efforts in order to strengthen Haitian institutions responsible for

[1] A/53/564.

dispensing justice and guaranteeing democracy, respect for human rights, political stability and economic development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system in providing humanitarian aid and contributing to the development of Haiti;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti".